

Message Text

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LIMDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT USNATO 148 ACTION SECSTATE DATED JAN 06:

153: S E C R E T USNATO 148

S/S FOR P. TARNOFF; NSC FOR R. HUNTER

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PORG, NATO

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH NORTH ATLANTIC
COUNCIL JANUARY 6: OPENING AND CLOSING REMARKS BY
SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS

REF: A) USNATO 144, B) USNATO 145

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1. SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS' WELCOMING REMARKS DURING
PRESIDENT CARTER'S 67 MINUTE MEETING WITH NORTH ATLANTIC
COUNCIL JANUARY 6 ARE IN PARA 2 BELOW. PRESIDENT CARTER
SPOKE AFTER LUNS. (REFTEL). THE PRESIDENT WAS FOLLOWED
BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF ITALY (CATALANO,
THE DEAN), FRG (PAULS), NETHERLANDS (HARTOGH), DENMARK
(SVART), CANADA (HARDY), NORWAY (VIBE), AND FRANCE (TINE).

THE PRESIDENT THEN SPOKE AGAIN IN THE LIGHT OF PERM REPS' INTERVENTIONS. TO CONCLUDE THE MEETING LUNS SPOKE AGAIN. HIS FINAL REMARKS ARE IN PARA 3 BELOW. THE INTERVENTIONS OF THE PERM REPS ARE TRANSMITTED EACH IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE.

2. MR. PRESIDENT,

IT IS, INDEED, GREAT HONOUR, AS WELL AS A PERSONAL PLEASURE, TO WELCOME YOU FOR THE FIRST TIME TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. YOUR VISIT TO NATO IS WELL UNDERSTOOD IN ALL THE WORLD AS A MOST SIGNIFICANT MANIFESTATION OF THE CONTINUED UNITED STATES COMMITMENT TO OUR ALLIANCE. I CANNOT EMPHASIZE ENOUGH HOW GREATLY WE VALUE THIS DEMONSTRATION OF YOUR PERSONAL INTEREST, UNDERSCORING YOUR POLICY OF FIRM SUPPORT FOR THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION. I AM WELL AWARE THAT THE DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THIS COUNCIL ARE MOST EAGER TO ENGAGE YOU IN DISCUSSION. I WILL, THEREFORE, KEEP MY OWN REMARKS VERY SHORT.

I DO WANT TO RECALL, ON THIS OCCASION, THAT WHEN THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL MET HERE IN MINISTERIAL SESSION LAST MONTH, MINISTERS ONCE AGAIN CONFIRMED THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE OF TRANS-ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP AND MUTUAL CONFIDENCE, AS WELL AS THE VITAL SIGNIFICANCE OF CONTINUED
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CLOSE CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION AMONG ALL THE ALLIES. WE WELCOMED PARTICULARLY THE CLEAR AND IMPRESSIVE RE-AFFIRMATION OF THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT, AS EXPRESSED BY YOUR SECRETARY OF STATE, AND ESPECIALLY HIS ASSURANCES THAT IN THE ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC ARMS THE UNITED STATES WILL TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF BROAD WESTERN SECURITY INTERESTS AND WILL SAFEGUARD THE CONTINUED CREDIBILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF NATO'S DEFENCE STRATEGY, THE TRIAD OF CONVENTIONAL, THEATRE-NUCLEAR AND STRATEGIC WEAPONS.

AS MR. VANCE OBSERVED HERE LAST MONTH, SALT HAS EVOLVED INTO A PROCESS RATHER THAN A SET OF NEGOTIATIONS. AS WE AWAIT THE CONCLUSION OF A SALT II AGREEMENT, WE ARE ALREADY LOOKING AHEAD TO SALT III. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AND I HAVE THE GREATEST INTEREST IN WHATEVER YOU MAY WISH TO SAY TO US ABOUT PRESENT DEVELOPMENTS AND PROSPECTS IN THE SALT PROCESS.

DURING THE PERIOD SINCE OUR LONDON MEETINGS, WHEN YOU LAST PARTICIPATED PERSONALLY IN THE COUNCIL, CONTACTS BETWEEN

EAST AND WEST HAVE BEEN ESPECIALLY NUMEROUS. IN ADDITION TO SALT, NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN PURSUED INTENSIVELY ON NUMEROUS ASPECTS OF DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL. THE CSCE REVIEW CONFERENCE IN BELGRADE, WHICH WILL RESUME TEN DAYS FROM NOW, HAS PROVIDED A MOST WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE THE EAST IN A FRANK DIALOGUE, MOST DRAMATICALLY IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS. WHILE IT MUST BE SAID THAT FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT REMAINS A GOAL FOR THE FUTURE, WE CAN SO FAR DERIVE SOME ENCOURAGEMENT FROM DEVELOPMENTS IN BELGRADE.

AS FOR THE WORLD AROUND THE NATO AREA, WE HAVE WATCHED WITH SPECIAL CONCERN THE CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN AFRICA, ESPECIALLY IN THE HORN OF THAT CONTINENT, BUT, LIKEWISE
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IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND THE GRAVE PROBLEMS CONFRONTING US THERE. THE SPECTACULAR AND COURAGEOUS PEACE INITIATIVES RECENTLY UNDERTAKEN IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAVE ENGAGED OUR PARTICULAR ATTENTION. WE FERVENTLY HOPE THAT THE DRAMATIC DIALOGUE BEGUN BY CAIRO AND JERUSALEM MAY PAVE THE WAY FOR A JUST, LASTING AND ULTIMATELY COMPREHENSIVE PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THIS FOR SO LONG BITTERLY DIVIDED AND STRIFE-TORN REGION.

MR. PRESIDENT, THE COUNCIL WOULD GREATLY WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS ON THESE SPECIFIC PROBLEM AREAS AND, I MAY ADD, WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BENEFIT AT FIRST HAND ALSO FROM OTHER IMPRESSIONS AND INSIGHTS GAINED BY YOU IN THE COURSE OF THE SEVEN-NATION VOYAGE YOU ARE COMPLETING HERE IN BRUSSELS TODAY.

AGAIN, MR. PRESIDENT, PERMIT ME TO EXTEND TO YOU OUR MOST CORDIAL WELCOME TO NATO HEADQUARTERS AND TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR VISIT.

3. TO CONCLUDE THE MEETING, LUNS, IN EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT, SPOKE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: WE THANK YOU VERY MUCH. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP. THIS COUNCIL IS THE BODY IN WHICH YOU WILL CONTINUE TO CONSULT. WE APPRECIATE YOUR ASSURANCES THAT THERE HAVE NOT BEEN BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING THEATRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS SYSTEMS. GILTMAN UNQTE VANCE

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